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strom of Lenau's existence. E. should not altogether suppress the wrong implied in L.'s behavior towards her. To me the whole affair was an additional proof of his decaying judgment.

E.'s hatred of Sophie Löwenthal is of a piece with a strong element of philistine morality in him, which in many cases strikes one as distinctly unpleasant.

I cannot suppress the belief that a less garish cover would at least not have injured the book.

THEODOR GESKY: *Lenau als Naturdichter*, Leipzig, 1902, aims at interpreting the attitude towards nature found in some of Lenau's works. The material on which G. bases his investigation is entirely incomplete, and hence his investigation, in spite of some good points, has no scientific value.

I have attempted the same task as G. in a monograph: *The Attitude towards Nature in the Works of Nikolaus Lenau*, Chicago, 1902.

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NOTES ON DAVENANT'S LIFE.

Concerning the early life of the poet William Davenant but little is known; and concerning his later life reliable information is scant enough. Aubrey¹ and Wood² perhaps give the most authoritative sketches. Aubrey indeed counted the poet among his "learned familiar friends and acquaintance."³ But his account is not, for all that, to be relied on: it is neither full nor entirely accurate. And Wood's account, while richer in detail, is either inexplicit or silent on more than one important point. Nor does the rather lengthy sketch prefixed to the relatively recent edition of the poet's dramatic works, by Maidment and Logan,⁴ supplement or correct the earlier sketches, it must be said in defense of the Edinburgh editors, as faithfully as might have been hoped,—though

that easily available sources for the poet's life were more meager at the time of the appearance of their memoir than at present.⁵ Still they omit some not unimportant matter which must surely have not been wholly inaccessible to them. They have not gleaned all that was available about Davenant's early military career; nor do they make any effort to work out the poet's pedigree. And in common with their predecessors and a very firmly established tradition, they report quite incorrectly one interesting episode from their subject's life,—viz., the projected voyage to America in 1650.

Davenant's Pedigree.

In an attempt to establish a pedigree for Sir William, I found my first clue in a letter from John Davenant, Bishop of Salisbury, to one Nicholas, an abstract of which letter appears in the Calendar of State Papers for 1628–9.⁶ This letter establishes, in my opinion, a connection between the poet and Bishop Davenant.⁷ The abstract of the letter reads as follows: "Recommends to him [Nicholas] 'this young gentleman, Mr. William Davenant, who has been employed in the wars abroad. He is my near kinsman. He has the place of an ancient or lieutenant already, and when new regiments are raised hopes for further advancement.'"

A connection between the poet and Bishop Davenant being apparently established, it occurred to me that I might establish the poet's pedigree through that of the Bishop's, which I felt confident could be found with little difficulty. Accordingly I made an examination of the various genealogical sources and authorities for the period, with the result that I found not only a number of more or less incomplete tables of the Davenant family, most of which include Bishop Davenant, but ultimately came across, in Hoare's *Wiltshire*,⁸ a lengthy Davenant pedigree in which the poet Davenant also appears.

⁵ Some of the Calendars of State Papers from which I cite later, had not then been published.

⁶ *Calendar of State Papers* for 1628–9, ed. Bruce, London, 1859, p. 67.

⁷ Bruce, who refers to this letter in his preface, p. xiii, is unwilling to identify this William Davenant with the poet Davenant.

⁸ Hoare, *History of Modern Wiltshire*, London, 1837, vol. v, pt. ii, p. 85.

¹ Aubrey, *Lives of Eminent Men* (printed with Aubrey's *Letters*), London, 1813, vol. II, pp. 302–310.

² Anthony A. Wood, *Athenæ Oxonienses*, ed. Bliss, London, 1817, vol. III, cols. 802–809.

³ Aubrey, *Lives of Eminent Men*, vol. II, p. 629.

⁴ *The Dramatic Works of Sir William D'Avenant*, ed. Maidment and Logan, Edinburgh, 1872–1874, vol. I, pp. v–lxxxix.

Hoare's table is inaccurate, however, in some respects, as there is abundant evidence to show. In the first place, John Davenant, Mayor of Oxford and father of the poet, did not die, as Hoare has it, in 1662, but just forty years before that date—in 1622. This is conclusively proved by his will,⁹ which went to probate October 21, 1622; and is also borne out by tradition, which represents the famous tavern-keeper as having 'pined and died'¹⁰ shortly after his wife's death, which in turn is shown by the will to have been 1622 also. Add to this that Hoare mentions among the offspring of John Davenant (of Oxford) only the poet, Sir William, and gives *Jane Shepard* as the name of John Davenant's wife, while the will gives her name as *Elizabeth*, and we have further evidence of Hoare's fallibility here.

But Hoare is in accord with the fullest and most reliable of the other tables down to William Davenant of Davenant's-lands. Here, instead of giving the aforementioned William Davenant only two sons, viz., John (merchant of London and father of Bishop Davenant) and William (from whom descended a William, a John, and an Edward), Hoare adds a third son, Ralph, whom he makes father of John Davenant of Oxford and grandfather of Sir William Davenant, the poet. This, so far as I can find, he has done arbitrarily.

We should have the correct tree, I believe, by finding in John (the second son of William, himself the second son of William of Davenant's-lands) none other than the renowned vintner and mayor of Oxford and the father of Sir William Davenant, dramatist and laureate. Evidence supporting this view may be found in a brief Davenant pedigree in Harleian ms. 1542,¹¹ where the wife of this John is given as Elizabeth: while evidence of a negative sort is to be had in that none of the manuscript tables, among which may be enumerated Harl. 1398, Harl. 1137, Harl. 1432, and Baker 30, support Hoare either in deriving the poet from

a third son (Ralph) of William Davenant of Davenant's-lands, or in the unwarranted substitution of the name Jane Shepard for the authentic Elizabeth (mother of the poet).

The balance of evidence, then, would seem to support the pedigree given on p. 238.

Early Military Career.

Shortly after his father's death in 1622, Davenant left Oxford—where, during the previous year at least, he had been a student at Lincoln College—and went to London. In London, according to Aubrey, he was first employed as a page to the Duchess of Richmond; later he was connected with the court of Fulke Greville, Lord Brooke.¹² How long he remained in the service of Brooke we do not know,—Aubrey says, until Brooke's death in 1628. Nor do we know how he was occupied during these six years; Aubrey and the rest of the sketch-writers are silent here. It would appear, however, partly from the letter from Bishop Davenant referred to above in connection with the Davenant pedigree, and partly from certain complimentary verses by Thomas Ellis prefixed to the folio edition of the poet's *Albovine*¹³ (printed in 1629), that Davenant was employed at this time in the military service of England on the continent. Bishop Davenant's statement is to the effect that his young kinsman, William Davenant (whom I venture to identify with the poet), had "been engaged in the wars abroad" and already held the place of "ancient or lieutenant." The lines prefixed to the *Albovine* are as follows:

"Wise Fame shall sing the praise of thy deserts,
And voice thee glorious both in Arms and Arts;
Whilst thou, released from the wars sad mishaps,
Rests in soft dalliance on the Muses laps."

Davenant's subsequent rapid advancement and his prominence in the civil wars of the '40's lend further support to this view.

The Projected Voyage to Maryland.

But the gravest sin of Davenant's biographers is not one of omission. It has to do with the poet's projected voyage to America in the winter

⁹ Reprinted by Halliwell, London, 1866.

¹⁰ See the verses "on the death of Mr. John Davenant, Maier of Oxford," reprinted in *The Dramatic Works of D'Avenant*, vol. i, p. xxviii.

¹¹ I have to note, however, that this piece of evidence is somewhat weakened by the fact that the date 1634 follows this John Davenant.—See *Harleian Soc. Publications*, vol. xiii, p. 388.

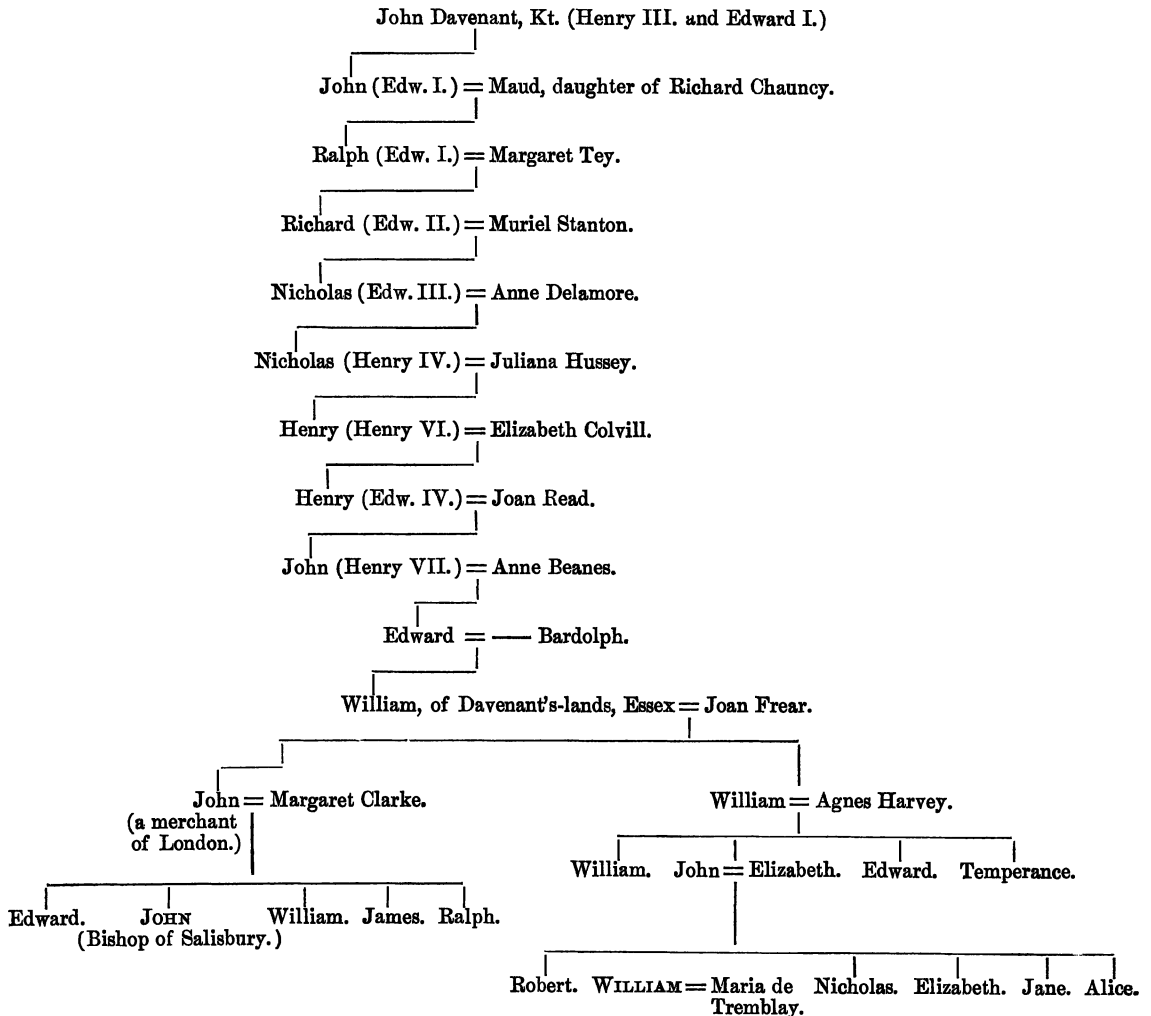
¹² Aubrey, *Lives of Eminent Men*, vol. II, pp. 303-4.

¹³ *The Dramatic Works of D'Avenant*, vol. i, p. 16.

of 1650. Aubrey tells us¹⁴ that Davenant, while in Paris (1648 or 9, presumably), "layd an ingeniose designe to carry a considerable number of artificers (chiefly weavers) to Virginia," and, by authority of the King of France, having secured some thirty-six weavers from the prisons of Paris,

in his sketch of Davenant in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

The facts in the case are, that Davenant had set out, not for Virginia, but for the Colony of Maryland, and with a commission to supersede Lord Baltimore as Lieutenant-Governor of Mary-



set out on a voyage thither; to be captured by the English, however, shortly after leaving France. In this account Aubrey seems to have been followed by all who have come after him, including the editors Maidment and Logan, and Knight

¹⁴ Aubrey, *Lives of Eminent Men*, vol. II, p. 307 f.

land and to strengthen as best he could the cause of the Royalists in America. He may have given it out, as a sort of ruse, that he was going to Virginia, but there can be no doubt that his mission was to Maryland. Proof of this view is found in the commission itself, a printed copy of which is

to be seen in the British Museum.¹⁵ This copy is attached to a document entitled "The Lord Baltimore's Case . . . concerning the Province of Maryland." The commission reads, in part, as follows :—

"Whereas, Lord Baltimore doth visibly adhere to the Rebels of England . . . , know ye, therefore, that we, reposing conduct loyalty and good affections to us, of you, Sir William Davenant, do by these presents nominate you our Lieutenant Governor of the said province of Maryland. . . . We give you all power and authority to do all things in the said plantation which shall be necessary for our service, and to comply and hold due correspondence with trusty Sir William Berkley of Virginia. Given at our Court in Jersey 16th Day of Feby. 1649/50 in the second year of our reign."

To supersede Lord Baltimore in Maryland, then, and not to carry weavers to Virginia, was the purpose of Davenant's would-be voyage to America.—The fate of the expedition I have already told: the poet was captured in the Channel, and taken to Cowes Castle, Isle of Wight, where he was imprisoned.

Imprisonment During the Commonwealth.

For the period immediately following the capture of Davenant, in 1650, the Calendars of State Papers afford a number of interesting notices not so far made use of in any of the various memoirs of the poet. From one of these notices, bearing the date May 17, 1650,¹⁶ we learn that Davenant was at that time imprisoned at Cowes Castle. And as the postscript to his *Gondibert* dates from the same place on the 22d of the following October, we know that he was still at Cowes when the order for his trial was drawn. This order bears the date July 2, 1650.¹⁷ On the following day, July 3, 1650,¹⁸ there was an order that Davenant be excluded from the number to be tried according

to the above first-mentioned order, Milton's influence,¹⁹ perhaps, having been exerted in his behalf. October 7, 1652,²⁰ over two years later, Davenant was granted the liberty of the Tower, whither he had been removed, perhaps in the winter of 1650–51,—this time, tradition has it, through the influence of Whitelocke.²¹ There are a number of other notices for the years 1653 and 1654, the most important of which is that of a petition to the Protector, dated April 18, 1654,²² in which Davenant sums up his history for the preceding four years. This petition recites that "on 9 July, 1650, Parliament appointed him to be tried by the High Court of Justice for treason, but no proceedings were taken." On Nov. 12, 1651, it was agreed that he be exchanged for a Capt. Clarke, yet he has been retained a prisoner for two years and afterward let out for one year on bail. He has recently been "arrested for debt and made a double prisoner." June 27, 1654,²³ an order is entered that Davenant be set at liberty and a pardon prepared. August 4²⁴ of the same year an order is entered, signed by Cromwell, for his discharge from the Tower.

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NOTES ON SCHILLER'S *Eroberer*.

The lines 51–54 of Schiller's poem *Der Eroberer* have always presented great difficulties to the commentators. Especially has the expression "Flammen der Königsstadt" been the occasion of much speculation; it has been connected either with the conflagration of Rome in the time of Nero (Düntzer, *Erläut.*, etc. I², 15 ff.; Jonas, *Erläut. d. Jugendged. Schiller's*, 12), or with the burning of the royal castle at Persepolis by Alexander the Great (Jelp, *Neue Jahrb. f. Phil. und Päd.*, 100. Band, 1869, 2. Abt., 421 ff.). Neither of these

¹⁵ "Calvert Papers," numbers 19 and 20. A copy may be found in the library of the Maryland Historical Soc., Baltimore.—See Browne, *George and Cecilius Calvert*, New York, 1890, pp. 141–2, and *Maryland*, Boston, 1888, p. 73, for references to this in connection with Maryland history.

¹⁶ *Calendar of State Papers* for 1650, Domestic Series, p. 167.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 229.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 229.

¹⁹ See Wood, *Athenæ Oxon.*, vol. III, col. 805, and Richardson, *Explanatory Notes on Paradise Lost*, London, 1734, p. lxxxix f. See also any edition of Johnson's *Life of Milton*.

²⁰ *Cal. of State Papers* for 1651–2, p. 432.

²¹ Whitelocke, *Memorials*, Oxford, 1853, vol. III, p. 462.

²² *Cal. of State Papers* for 1654, pp. 106–7.

²³ *Ibid.*, p. 224.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 438–9.